

**Senior Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, April 28, 2015  
Town Hall, Old Town Road  
9:30 a.m.**

Present: Co-Chairs Sandra Kelly and Gail Pierce, Members - Deborah Martin, Linda Spak, Dorothy Graham and Betsey DeMaggio. Also present, for the recording of minutes, was Millie McGinnes. Members Ann Henault, Susie Wright, Sandra Hopf and Senior Coordinator Anna Christina Rogers were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Sandra Kelly at 9:31 a.m.

**1. Approve Minutes of Meeting, February 17, 2015**

Ms. Pierce moved to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. DeMaggio and carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, DeMaggio Kelly, Graham, Martin)                      Nays 0  
Absent 4 (Wright, Hopf, Henault, Spak)

**2. Receive Senior Coordinator Anna Christina Roger's Report**

Ms. Spak joined the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Senior Coordinator Rogers was not present. Her report was read by Sandra Kelly and included the following:

- Financial Town Meeting is May 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. – please attend.
- Ms. Rogers plans to meet and work with the new physician Dr. Clark when he comes aboard to address senior health issues.
- She is working with South County Community Action to determine whether Block Island can have use of their social workers and programs.
- Doreen Putnam will be doing an Alzheimer's Workshop on May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center. It is an event co-sponsored by SAC and the Harbor Church.
- A Care-Giver Workshop will be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> with a physical therapist and will cover body mechanics.
- The Parkinson's Disease Association will do a presentation on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Community Center.
- There will be a Wills and Trusts/Basic Estate Planning Workshop on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.
- The AARP Smart Driver workshop will take place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11:15 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

**3. Ratify purchase of and act on reimbursement of a computer for the Senior Coordinator**

Ms. Graham moved to authorize the purchase of a laptop computer for the Senior Coordinator's use, spending up to \$1,200. The motion was seconded by Ms. Spak and carried.

Ayes 6 (Pierce, DeMaggio Kelly, Graham, Martin, Spak)                      Nays 0  
Absent 3 (Wright, Hopf, Henault)

**4. Discuss and act on “off Island trip”**

Ms. Pierce will determine if there is interest in organizing an off- island trip to the Newport Flower Show on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**5. Discuss and act on “social activities” cooking and crafts**

Ms. Kelly noted that social activities were also a crucial part of healthy living for seniors.

The following ideas regarding social activities were suggested:

- Appetizer social
- Jewelry making
- Wreath making
- Cooking class
- Music performance

It was noted that summer is not the ideal time to begin. Activities should begin in September or October, once or twice per month.

**6. Status of Notify Now**

Ms. Kelly noted that the Notify Now program is active. It was suggested that another membership drive take place in the fall. Ms. Kelly will talk to the Police Chief and Nancy Dodge about conducting a test.

Sandra Kelly and Pat Kelly were commended for their very hard work on the project.

**7. Continue discussion of possible areas for exercise**

Ms. Pierce and Ms. Kelly stated how crucial an exercise program is for seniors during the winter. Ms. Kelly will talk to Robbie Closter about establishing gym time and programs.

**8. Update on activities:**

**A. BIBB**

Ms. Kelly reported that there are 643 members of the Bulletin Board and 4,073 messages have been distributed. Ms. Spak suggested that the request be made again to Interstate Navigation asking they join the Bulletin Board.

**B. Soup Group**

Ms. Pierce noted that Soup Group has lost participants. They will continue through the summer, moving the day to Tuesday, and reevaluate in the fall.

**C. Lunch Bunch**

Ms. Martin reported that Lunch Bunch is going well with 16 to 22 participants.

In the fall more publicity and recruitment will be done to increase the participation of both Soup Group and Lunch Bunch.

**D. Chair Aerobics**

It was noted that Chair Aerobics continues on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:30 – 11:00.

It was noted that the new FISH phone number is 401-714-1401.

Ms. Pierce noted that she saw a segment regarding “Ocean State for Independent Living” on the news. It will be looked into for the next meeting.

**The next meeting will be May 19, 2015**

With no further business to discuss Ms. Pierce moved to adjourn at 10:48 a.m. The motion was seconded by Ms. DeMaggio and carried unanimously.

Millie McGinnes  
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: May 19, 2015